



City of Ridgecrest  
100 W. California Avenue  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
499-5105

***A.C.T.I.O.N. Task Force***  
*Kerr McGee Community Center Meeting Rooms*  
*January 11, 2010*  
*6:00 pm*

***Minutes***

Committee Members: Mayor Pro Tem Ron Carter, City Councilman Chip Holloway, Chief of Police Ron Strand

Recording Secretary: Lori Blowers, Administrative Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6pm by Mayor Pro Tem Ron Carter.

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made by everyone present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: There was a motion from Ron Strand to approve the agenda, second by Ron Carter. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: There was a motion to approve the minutes by Ron Strand, second by Ron Carter to APPROVE THE MINUTES for November 9, 2009. All in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Kandi Smith, IWVFRC –
  1. Handout on the gang training that Nancy Ribultan attended in Bakersfield.
  2. Handout on “School Violence Threat Management” conference in Bakersfield on Truxton at the Superintendent’s office.
  3. Handout on “Parent’s, Children, and Truancy” from gang violence training.
  4. Parent Project Sr. class starting on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Can’t provide the class if they don’t have enough sign ups. Need a minimum of 10 enrolled and the only charge is for the books. On Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Question from Mr. Carter- Is the school district giving any referrals? Per Kandi, no they are not. Individuals have been signing up themselves as problems arise. Question from Mr. Carter- Have we looked to students for referring their parents to this class? Will speak with Kandi after the meeting in regards to that. Kandi will send a flyer to P.D. for disbursement and will bring flyer to Theresa Cook for Teen Court.
  5. New Beginnings parenting class starting on Wednesday in Spanish and a Take Care Neglect class starting on Monday. They are full and have a waiting list due to being court ordered classes.

**UPDATES ON STRATEGY/ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

1. **School Reports –**
  - a. Officer Agostinacci-
    - Graffiti- Were able to track down two students who tagged over 70 locations. One student was re-arrested from previous tagging and went through the graffiti book

to identify all of his graffiti locations. The other student involved also identified his graffiti locations resulting in 68 locations for one and 11 locations for the other. If charges go through they are looking at \$8,000-\$9,000 in restitution for city clean up and victims.

- Incident occurred around two weeks ago in the desert area outside the fence line of Burroughs High School. Found the remnants of an acid bomb with materials purchased from Dollar Tree. Consists of a water bottle, aluminum foil, and acid based toilet cleaner. They found the exploded bomb and three readymade bombs. Not sure what the intentions were. The explosion may have scared the student and they probably ran away. Question from Mr. Carter- Are you seeing more serious things happening? Per Nino, this was pretty sporadic incident and he doesn't see any trends happening.

Officer Franco –

- She is still seeing colors at Burroughs and documented fights that are gang related according to the students. The students are being taken in to custody and released to the parent. The parents are told the students can't return to the school site until colors are not being used. There is an administrator meeting prior to returning to school. For the most part parents are supportive and cooperative. Per Officer Agostinacci, he thinks parents are realizing the significance of the issue and what it symbolizes. The parents don't always see it as being an issue until it is brought to their attention. Now that they are seeing there is a trend it is making more of an impact. Per Officer Franco, the parents are forced to deal with the situation if their child is arrested because it becomes a safety issue for their child and the other children involved. Per Nino, they can now link the gang language they are throwing around with the colors they are wearing.
- Gang names mentioned from a parent of a student were: The Warriors, Kern County, Street Kings.

**Neighborhood Watch** – Nancy Young, PACT Coordinator

- Slowed down again. Hasn't received any call backs.
- Graffiti is off the charts again. Thirty-seven sites were cleaned last Saturday. Some groups are using the same tags. Per Nino, there is a new group doing tags that are really fast because they are using markers. Question by Mr. Carter- Do we need to look at creating an open area where the kids can do graffiti? Per Chief, due to us not having a significant gang problem, he is reluctant to do that because if we say it's ok to one area it's hard to control it in other areas. Chief believes we should continue with our current strategy, which seems to be working pretty well.

2. **Y.E.S.** – Not present.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – None.

Committee comments – Ron Strand, Chief

- Teen Court is being held once a week. We've ran 38 kids through as of tonight. The goal is to hold these kids accountable on their first offense. The county can take up to six months or so before anything occurs. Some of the offenses that are being charged in teen court include; fights, curfew, minor petty thefts, and minor vandalisms. They usually receive a fine, community service, and write letters. We are hoping to reduce the number of repeat offenders. Teen Court has been very

A.C.T.I.O.N. Task Force – Minutes

January 11, 2010

Page

effective. Mr. Carter has heard from kids, who have previously participated in Teen Court, that the program has saved their life.

The next ACTION meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6:00 pm, Kerr McGee Center.

ADJOURNMENT – The official meeting was adjourned by Mayor Pro Tem Ron Carter.